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EXAMINER	
BAUGH, APRIL L	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2003 4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/597,146	Applicant(s) KADOMATSU, DAIKI	
	Examiner April L Baugh	Art Unit 2141	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 June 2000 is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-31 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Yokose et al.

Regarding claim 1, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (column 9, lines 33-37) and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 2, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for adding transmission information onto image data that has been entered (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (column 9, lines 33-37) and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 3, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for determining whether transmission information is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have this information added to it (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 4, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and preserving the compressed image data (column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been preserved (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 5, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines

33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 6, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of adding transmission information onto image data representing an image that has been read (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 7, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of adding transmission information onto image data that has been entered (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 8, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method having a reading step of reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); a storage step of compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and a transmitting step of transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37); the method further including a step of adding transmission information onto the image data after the reading step and before the storage step (column 2, line 26-28).

Regarding claim 9, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; determining whether transmission information is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have this information added to it (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 10, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: adding transmission information onto image data representing an image that has been read (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and preserving the compressed image data (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been preserved (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 11, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the step of adding transmission information onto image data representing an image that has been read (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 12, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data: means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim13, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 14, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63): means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for determining whether transmission information is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have this information added to it (column 2, line 26-28); means for

compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 15, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and preserving the compressed image data (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been preserved (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 16, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for adding transmission information onto the image data (column 2, line 26-28); means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 17, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which

the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Referring to claim 18, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Regarding claim 19, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), this data having been compressed according to a compression format identical with that of the image data, and transmitting this image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 20, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for preserving the compressed image data (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the preserved image data, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), this data having been compressed according to a compression format identical with that of the image data, and transmitting this image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 21, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), this data having been compressed according to a compression format identical with that of the image data, and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it (column 2, lines 35-37).

Referring to claim 22, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for adding

on transmission information; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Regarding claim 23, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Referring to claim 24, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Regarding claim 25, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; preserving the compressed image data (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the preserved image data and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Referring to claim 26, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it (column 2, lines 35-37).

Regarding claim 27, Yokose et al. teaches an storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data: means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, and replacing, on the basis of a position

at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Referring to claim 28, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Regarding claim 29, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63), in order to transmit the image data: means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Referring to claim 30, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for preserving the compressed image data (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the preserved image data and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Regarding claim 31, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data: means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), some of the image data with data relating to transmission information, and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it (column 2, lines 35-37).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patent is cited to further show the state of the art with respect to image communication apparatus' in general:

US Pat No. 5,349,448 to Hirai.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April L Baugh whose telephone number is 703-305-5317. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal D Dharia can be reached on 703-305-4003. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

ALB

RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER